

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Flakes comprising a non-chiral liquid crystal material.
2. (Original) Flakes according to claim 1, characterized in that the liquid crystal material is a nematic or smectic liquid crystal material.
3. (Currently Amended) Flakes according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the liquid crystal material is polymerised, crosslinked or vitrified.
4. (Currently Amended) Flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 3~~, characterized in that they comprise two or more layers of liquid crystal material.
5. (Currently Amended) Flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 4~~, characterized in that the liquid crystal material has uniform orientation.
6. (Original) Flakes according to claim 5, characterized in that the liquid crystal material has planar orientation.
7. (Currently Amended) Flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 6~~, characterized in that they are platelet shaped.
8. (Original) Flakes according to claim 7, characterized in that they have lateral dimensions of from 10 to 2000 microns and a thickness of from 0.5 to 5 microns.
9. (Currently Amended) Process of preparing flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 8~~, by providing an achiral polymerisable liquid crystal material onto a substrate, polymerising the material, optionally removing the polymerised material from the substrate and processing it to form flakes.
10. (Currently Amended) Ink comprising one or more types of flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 8~~ dispersed in a light transmissive binder.

11. (Original) Ink according to claim 10, characterized in that it additionally comprises one or more types of optically variable pigments.
12. (Currently Amended) Film or coating of an ink according to claim 10 ~~or 11~~ provided on a substrate.
13. (Currently Amended) Use of flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 8 or an ink according to claim 10 or 11 or a film or coating according to claim 12~~ for decorative or security applications, security markings or security threads, or systems of verification or authentication of documents or objects.
14. (Currently Amended) Security marking comprising flakes according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 8 or an ink according to claim 10 or 11~~ provided on a reflective substrate.
15. (Original) Document comprising a security marking according to claim 14.
16. (Original) Method of verification of a document according to claim 15 by observing said document through one or more linear or circular polarisers.